

Remarks/Arguments

This Amendment is in response to the Final Official Action mailed September 7, 2005.

In the September 7, Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 17-20 under 103(a) as being obvious in light of a combination of Duley and Durand. Specifically, in the office action, Duley was cited as showing the creation, using welding, of a multi-metallic blank. Durand was cited as showing the use of magnetic pulse welding. The combination of the pulse welding shown in Durand into the multi-metallic blank creation process of Duley was considered obvious inasmuch as magnetic pulse welding is a known alternative to laser welding as used in Durand.

It is submitted that each of Duley and Durand in their entirety do not provide the basis for the respectively claimed features for which they are cited and on which the examiner has relied. To wit: Duley does not disclose laser welding of dis-similar metals. Instead, where-ever dis-similar metals are to be joined, Duley uses either a “plastics material” between the dis-similar materials or uses a “mechanically locked” fit. (See col. 5, lines 45-end, to col. 6, line 18, of Duley). When the foregoing is not suitable, a frictional relation between the parts may be used between compatible shapes of parts.

Hence, “welding” between differing first and second metals does not occur in the primary reference to Duley. Surely, a connection of some sort is formed in the Duley disclosure between dis-similar materials, either by a plastics material or a mechanical fit, but not by “welding” as claimed in the present application claims 17 and 18.

The secondary reference to Durand discloses the use of magnetic pulse welding as a step in a process to fixedly assemble frame elements made of differing materials. However, the differing materials in Durand are not welded one to the other. Rather, respective frame elements comprised of differing materials are placed in position so that a separate ring element may be collapsed around juxtaposed or overlapped compatibly shaped portions of the frame elements and maintain a fixed orientation between the respective elements by a clamping action. Magnetic pulse welding in Durand is not used to join differing materials directly one-to-the-other as presently claimed.

Claims 17 and 18 have been amended herein to focus on the welded, or directly fused, aspect of the present multi-metallic article method. The claims are directed to a method of forming a multi-metallic article wherein the respective differing metallic elements are magnetically pulse welded, ie, directly fused, one to the other edgewise to form a multi-metallic blank prior to being formed into a multi-metallic article. The resulting combination of steps is neither known nor obvious in light of the art of record. As discussed above, Duley doesn't actually show welding of dis-similar metals, and neither does Durand.

Showing Under 37 CFR 1.116

Applicant respectfully seeks reconsideration and allowance of the referenced application in light of the foregoing amendments and argument. This amendment and argument is appropriate for entry under 37 CFR 1.116 inasmuch as no new issues are present. Rather, applicant has offered amendments to further define the distinctions, already extant and previously claimed, between the art of record, Duley and Durand, and the claimed invention. In the event a telephone interview would prove useful to resolve

any outstanding issues, the examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John M. White". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a cursive "M".

John M. White

Reg. No. 32,634

Berenato White & Stavish

(Va. Office)

PO Box 315

Waterford, Va. 20197

Ph 540 882 3569

Virginia Office